

# ***NCGS: Positioning NC today and for the future!***



## **North Carolina Geodetic Survey**

National Geospatial Advisory Committee  
September 2015



# How did North Carolina get its shape?

## *A History of the Boundaries Surveyed*







# How did North Carolina get its shape?

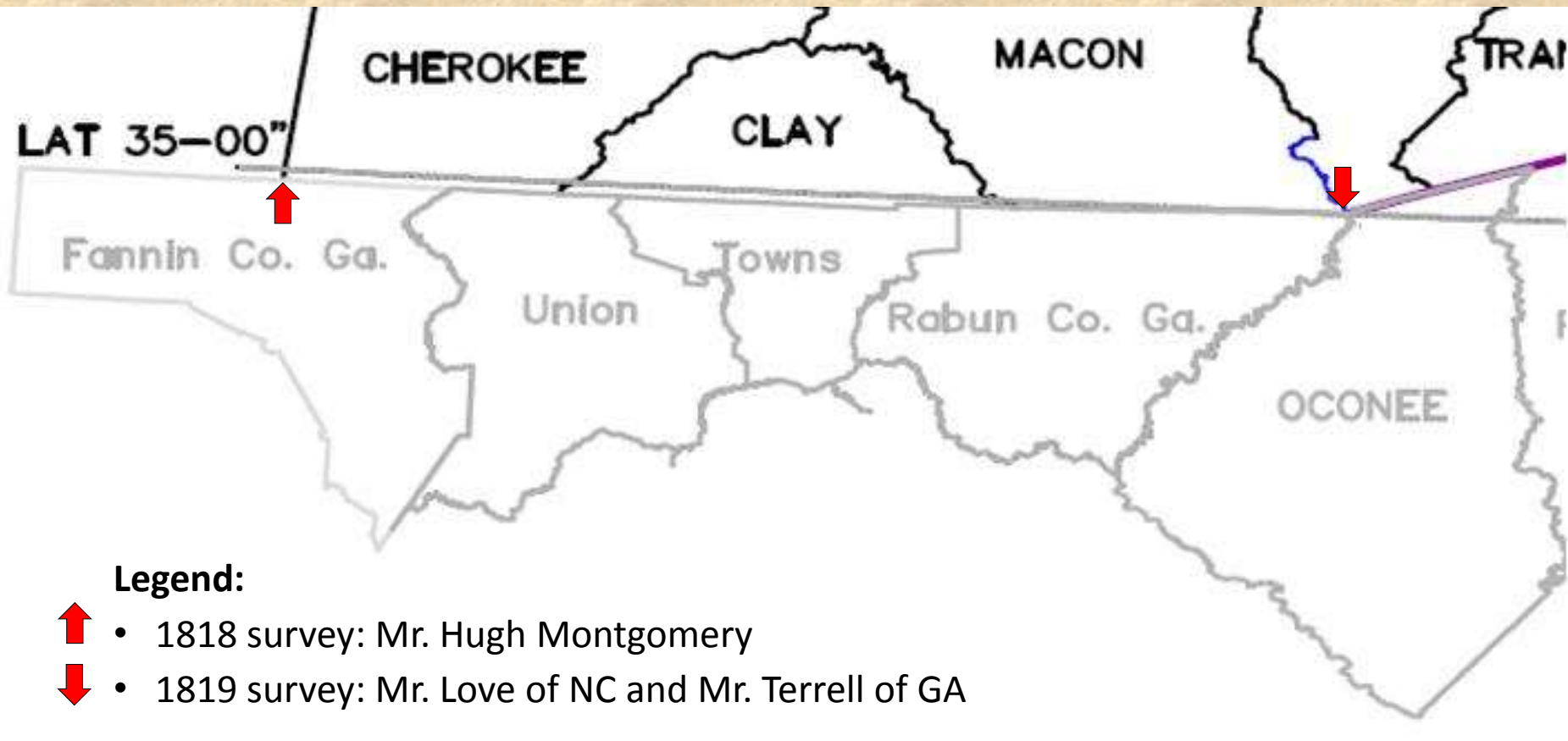
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- **North Carolina/Georgia boundary**  
(a line defined by 2 survey teams that didn't meet)
  - **1818 survey led by Mr. Hugh Montgomery**
    - Proceeded east from Georgia's NW corner for 40 miles along what he thought was the 35th parallel until a point near Pine Knob where he set the "Montgomery's Corner" monument, but was 4,813 ft south of the 35th parallel
  - **1819 survey led by Mr. Love of North Carolina and Mr. Terrell of Georgia**
    - Proceeded west from the terminus of the 1815 survey (i.e. Commissioners Rock) for 30 miles where they set the 30 mile stone, which was 1,983 ft north of Montgomery's Corner.



# How did North Carolina get its shape?





Round Top Mt.▲

Pine Knob▲

35th parallel

Monument set by Love & Terrell

Montgomery's Corner

Hightower Bald



Imagery Date: Jun 18, 2008

34°59'31.02" N 83°37'10.79" W elev 3524 ft

© 2011 Google

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Eye alt



## 30 Mile Stone – Love/Terrell Corner





# Montgomery Corner ON Hightower Bald





A photograph of a forest scene. A large tree trunk is visible in the center, with a pink ribbon tied around it as a reference mark. The ground is covered with fallen leaves and a large, mossy log. A person's leg and foot are partially visible in the bottom left corner.

NC-GA reference mark

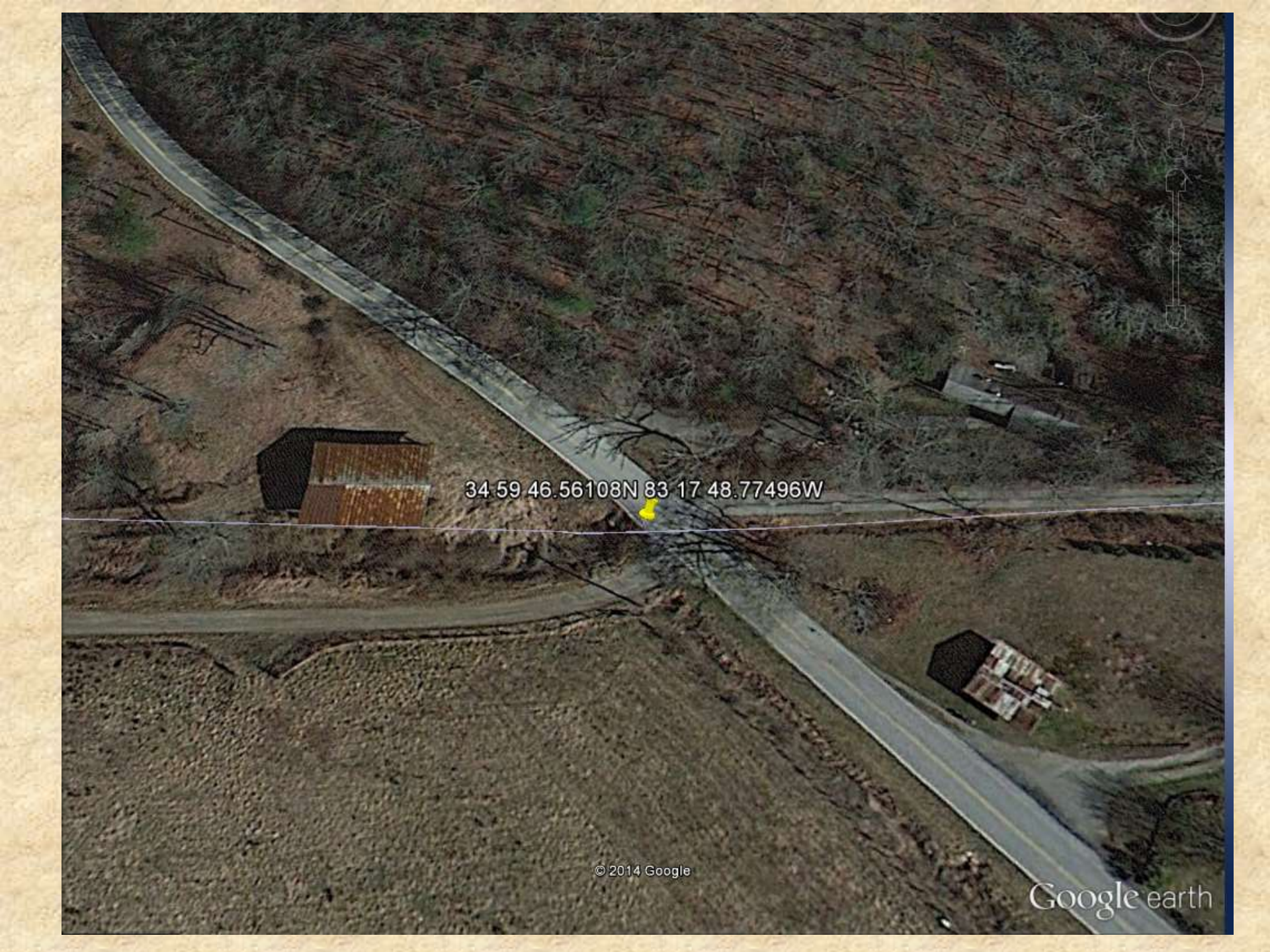
NC-GA



# NC- GA Stone





An aerial photograph from Google Earth showing a road intersection. A yellow pin is placed at the intersection of a road running diagonally from the top-left to the bottom-right and a road running horizontally across the middle. To the left of the intersection is a building with a rusted metal roof. To the right is another building with a corrugated metal roof. The surrounding area is dry and hilly with sparse vegetation. In the top right corner, there are navigation controls including a compass and a scale bar.

34 59 46.56108N 83 17 48.77496W

© 2014 Google

Google earth

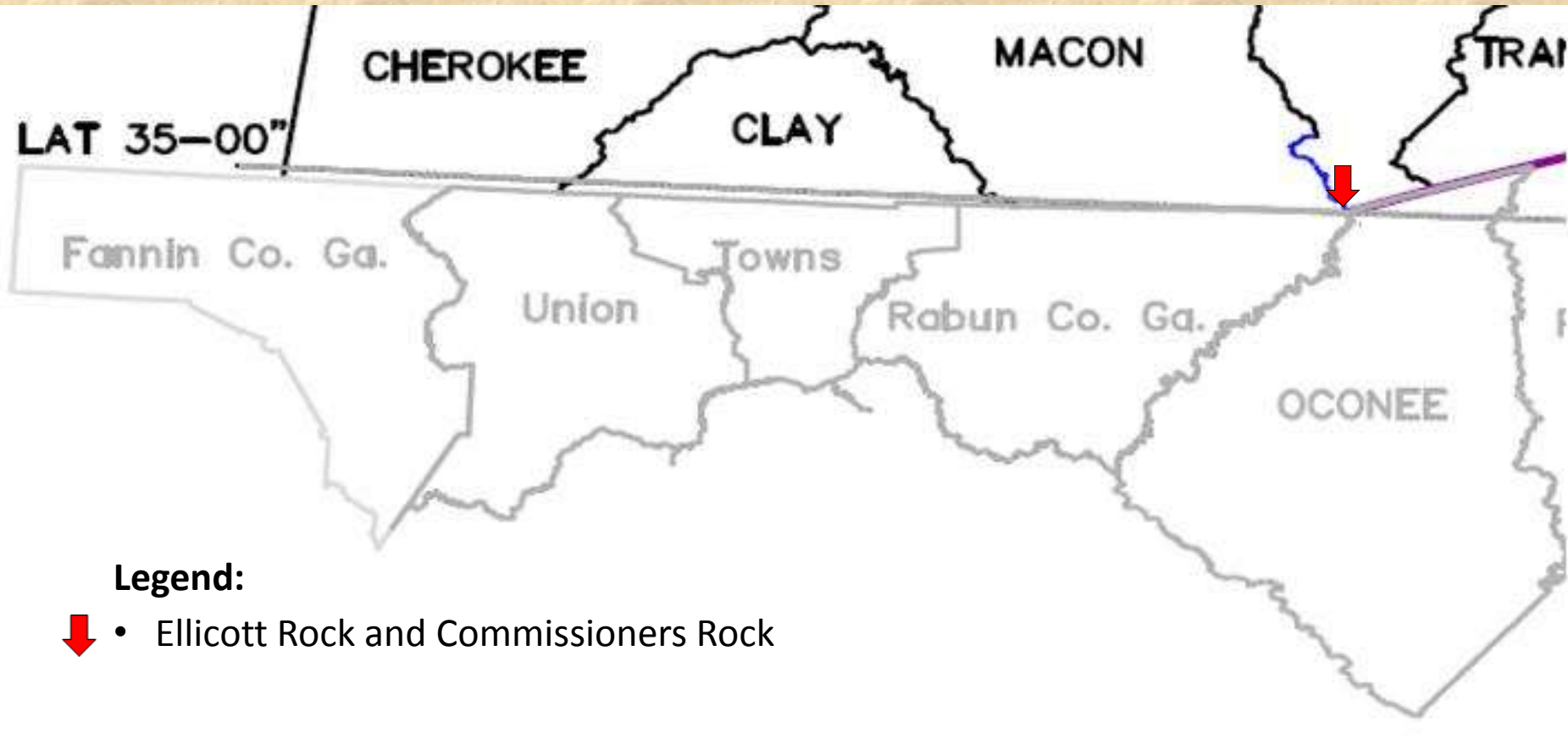








# How did North Carolina get its shape?







# Andrew Ellicott Letter to NC



Ellicott to His Excellency William Hawkins Esq. (Governor of North Carolina)

Lancaster June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1812

Dear Sir,

I presume the dispute between the state of Georgia and North Carolina is now finally settled. The 35<sup>th</sup> degree of N. latitude is found to be considerably further south than was expected. Not one water, hill or valley of the French broad falls within the state of Georgia by several miles.

It is contemplated to prepare, and publish an account of the dispute between the two states, with all the observations used for the determination of both latitude and longitude, together with a map or chart of the county in the vicinity of operations.

If the result of my labors should not be agreeable to the state of Georgia, it is not my fault. I was merely the intrepitor for the stars and they cannot err. The true boundary between the two states commences on the west side of the Chatoga River, about six miles south of the white sided mountain, and probably not more than eight miles north of the Ocone station! In the parallel of 35 degrees n. latitude, on the west side of the Chatoga river, a stone is set up marked on the south side, (G. lat 35.N.) and on the north side, (N.C.) for North Carolina. The Chatoga River is laid down in all maps, I have yet seen, as rising south of the 35<sup>th</sup> degree of N. latitude, which is manifestly a great error, and may have had its weight in providing the conflicting claims between the two states.

As the state on N. Carolina gains considerably by the determination, would it not be proper that it should bear part of the expense? My pay from the state of Georgia, falls far short of what I expected; --but this you may keep to yourself.

Please to accept the respects of my family, and believe me to be

With great esteem,  
Your friend and honorable servant

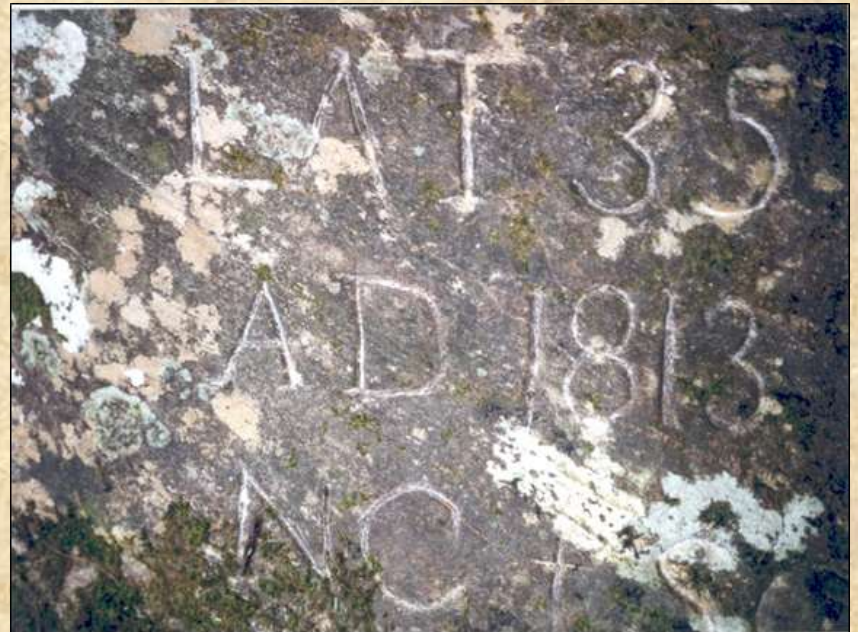
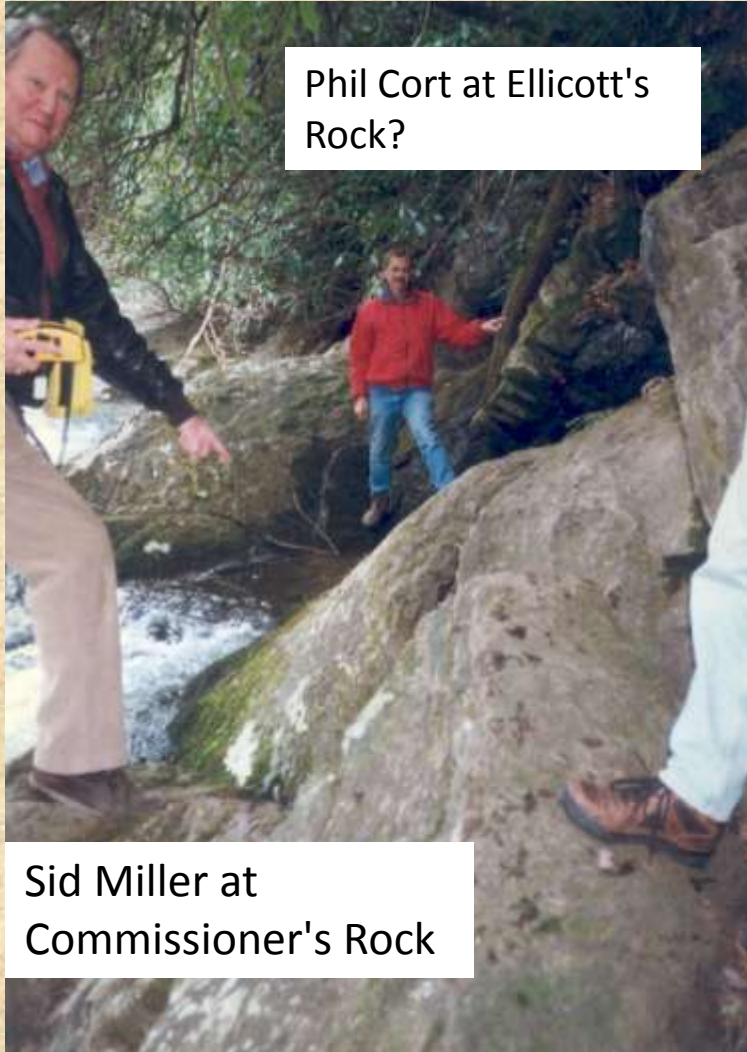
ANDREW ELLICOTT

(This letter can be found in the NC Archives Search Room General Assembly Papers of 1812-Box # 4)





# Commissioner's Rock







Ellicott's Rock?







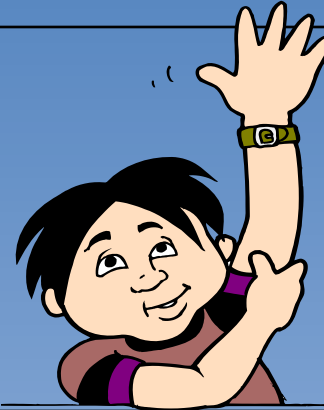
# Questions?

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